

BAXTER SPRINGS NEWS.

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A Chicago firm bought the Pittsburg, Kan., waterworks system a few days ago and will expend \$100,000 more on it. They have two wells each 1200 feet deep.

Globe-Democrat: The best way to provide more currency for the people is to give them the \$50,000,000 or \$60,000,000 per year which the tariff on sugar now costs them.

The fact that corn now brings 20 to 22 cents a bushel where it brought only 12 to 15 cents three months ago is calculated to upset a good many calculations in Kansas and Nebraska.

The silver quotation, which was 96% about ten days ago, and which went up to 102 six days later, is down to 98% now. This is the greatest fluctuation seen in such a short space of time in many years in the white metal.

The women officials of Oskaloosa, Kan., have retired to private life. They claim that during their single term of office they placed the town upon a sound financial footing, and the sterner sex can now run things if the proper caution is taken.

The Farmers Alliances of the United States have concluded to establish the Alliance Agricultural Works at Iron Gate, Alleghany county, Pa. The works will employ from 300 to 500 hands, and their products will go to every sub-alliance in the country, representing 4,000,000 members.

The New York World's interview with Senator Ingalls, 25 columns long will re-elect him to the United States senate, says the Kansas City Globe. There isn't another man or any alliance of men in Kansas who could get such an advertisement of the state in any newspaper in the country for love or money.

Judge Guthrie of Topeka has decided that upon the death of a husband, that the wife not only inherits title to one-half of the real estate, but inherits the shares for children who died in infancy; and that where a daughter married and died without children, her husband inherits her share. This is a new decision.

Two wealthy Massachusetts women, sharing the common impression that women cannot understand business, left the management of their property to a nephew. He managed it so well that in a short time he had forged their names to the amount of \$32,000, which the ladies paid rather than have a scandal in the family. Able financier that.

In a recent lecture Prof. Brewer of Yale college illustrated the idea that "man is worth more than the land" by a case which came under his own observation. A man bought a farm for \$20 an acre. He so improved it that in a few years he was offered \$300 an acre for it. At his death it sold for \$250 an acre. In a few years the purchaser sold it for \$100 an acre to a man who finally disposed of it for \$12 an acre. Here it was plainly the man and not the farm that determined the value.

The loss of property at Louisville through the recent tornado is estimated at from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000. What aggravates it is that there is no insurance. The people were insured against fire, but not against tornadoes, never suspecting danger from that direction. The loss in business property falls chiefly on the tobacco men. The colored people suffered severely. They were thickly settled in a large part of the wind-swept area. Though their loss does not foot up a large sum it was all they had.

Capt. W. D. Couch, the famous Oklahoma boomer, was buried Tuesday on a claim adjoining Oklahoma City. Thousands of his old associates were in attendance at the funeral, the largest by far ever known in the Indian territory. Ex-Congressman Clark delivered the funeral oration and reviewed the life and character of the departed boomer, deploring the fact that after Captain Couch had spent ten years in boomering he should be buried on the first anniversary of the opening of Oklahoma.

The government has ordered the abandonment of several frontier posts or stations once regarded as frontier posts, but which have become envied by two or more railroads. The idea is to concentrate "the corporal's guard" called the United States army at strategic points, and they are the railroad centers of the country, so that they may be made available in the event of a riot or the improbable outbreak of Indians anywhere in the country. The concentration, too, of the troops will be advantageous in the way of drilling, disciplining and instructing both the officers and men in their duties.

Representative Perkins of this district made a strong argument in favor of the free coinage of silver last Monday evening at the republican caucus, held for the purpose of considering the silver question, and submitted a proposition for adoption which embodied his views and those of a minority of a committee which had been appointed at a previous meeting. Without final action the caucus adjourned to meet again Wednesday night.

The new tariff bill was presented to the house of representatives April 16th, together with majority and minority reports of the committee. The majority of the committee say: "This bill was framed in the interest of the people of the United States. It is for the better development of American homes and American industries." They estimate that the total reduction of revenue effected by the adoption of the measure would be \$71,264,414.

Secretary Windom says the total circulation of money in the United States is \$1,426,000,000—an average of \$21.70 per capita on a basis of 65,000,000 population.

Federal Loans to Farmers.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The various schemes for the loaning of money by the government to the farmers are all manifestly impracticable and unreasonable. It is really astonishing to see what whimsical ideas in that regard can be seriously urged by intelligent citizens and even by individuals professing to be statesmen. These persons seem to think that congress can do what it pleases with the public money, and that it is in duty bound to provide capital for private use on such terms as will insure prosperity regardless of all adverse conditions. They take it for granted, apparently, that the constitution authorizes such action, or, if not, that it ought to be set aside in favor of the higher law of agricultural necessity, so to speak. This is a doctrine that would have amazed the fathers. They did not undertake to establish a government which should carry on a general loan business for the accommodation of any class of the people. Their most enthusiastic dreams of the future usefulness of the fabric that they reared did not include the notion of furnishing money at low rates of interest for carrying on any branch of industry. In all the years of our history such a proposition has never before been made; and the fact that it is now advanced can hardly be said to prove that we have been gaining in wisdom as we have gained in age and experience.

It is specially to be regretted that so many people assume that the secret of success in life is the opportunity to borrow money. The farmers are not so anxious to get out of debt, it appears, as they are to find a convenient way to perpetuate and increase their indebtedness. Such is the logic of all these projects. The cry is for more money at a nominal cost, not as a temporary relief, but as a fixed advantage. It is claimed in effect that the man who owns a farm is by that fact entitled to credit at the hands of the government for a given amount of money, to be employed in his operations as long as he wants it. If the farmers may properly be thus favored, then so may all other classes, and that implies a condition of things at war with the fundamental principles of our system of government, and with the accepted doctrines and teachings of civilization. Not more, but less borrowing is desirable in this country; not more, but less leaning upon the government is to be recommended. There is far too much dependence upon legislation for results which can better be obtained by patient industry and economy—by the independent efforts of diligent and self-reliant citizens. The marvelous prosperity of past years has been achieved by individual exertion, perseverance and foresight. We cannot hope to find a better plan. There is no virtue in any scheme which promises to exempt men from the prevailing conditions of agricultural gain and loss; and least of all is anything to be expected from the theory of looking to the government as a source of help in every ordinary financial contingency.

Old papers five cents per dozen.

Senator Ingalls not Opposing the Alliance
Kansas City Globe.

The Emporia Republican says Senator Ingalls "is now in the state for the purpose of inaugurating his campaign for the disruption and overthrow of the alliance. His emissaries and agents will be in every county sowing seeds of discord among the farmers."

To which the Hutchinson News replies as follows: "Mr. Ingalls is not in the state for any such purpose. Mr. Ingalls nor any of his friends, if they have his interests at heart, will lend themselves to any such movement. The alliance of Kansas, despite the attempts of such papers as the Republican to make it so, is not a political organization. It has certain well defined policies it wants carried out for the benefit of the producing classes, and if the old parties do not grant the relief sought, then, and only then, does the alliance essay to go into politics, so say the officers and leaders of this movement. With three-fourths of the alliance republican Senator Ingalls would hardly be foolish enough to want it disorganized. It will be the Ingalls enemies of the republican stripe that will be trying to tear it down as soon as they learn they cannot control it for political purposes."

The alliance is simply the old farmers' grange under a new name. The objects of the organization on the part of the farmer are perfectly legitimate. Primarily the grange was not in any ordinary sense a party movement and the discussion of purely political questions was prohibited in their meetings. It was non-partisan to the extent of requiring a pledge as a precedent to membership that its members would not vote for any man for any political office who was not known to be a friend of the farming interests, but it soon appeared, or rather an effort was made to make it appear, that the farmer had no friends outside the democratic party. The grange in the northwest was organized by democrats for the purpose of disrupting the republican party and just as soon as this fact became apparent to the republicans, who composed a large majority in nearly all the granges, the institution was smashed into a thousand smithereens.

The alliance is a grand institution for farmers and it may be made one of the most powerful and influential organizations in the country, and in a legitimate way exert a tremendous influence upon legislation if broken down politicians and demagogues can be kept out. Already the purpose of this class begins to be apparent in some of the alliances in Kansas, and when such papers as the Kansas City Times begins to laud the organization it is high time for honest republicans to begin to inquire of themselves whether they are lending aid and comfort.

The Case of Sugar.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Forty years ago the domestic production of sugar amounted to more than a third of the domestic consumption. To-day it amounts to only one-tenth. Then we raised at home as much as would supply the residents of the entire Mississippi valley as existing at that time. Now we raise barely enough to supply the people of Missouri and Illinois. Population has been growing rapidly throughout the country at this period, and the amount consumed per capita has largely increased, while the aggregate home product has remained practically unchanged. Taking the five years beginning with 1850 and the five years ending with 1889, indeed, and it will be found that the absolute production of the earlier period was greater than that of the later one, although the population of the country has increased from 23,000,000 in 1850 to 65,000,000 in 1889, or nearly tripled in the interval.

These are some of the reasons why the people of the country have compelled the ways and means committee to put raw sugar on the free list, and why the protests of the sugar planters and their agents against this action be disregarded. Sugar has been on the dutiable schedules during nearly the whole period of the nation's existence under the constitution. All the aid which has been given by our revenue laws to the manufacturers of the textiles and metals has been fairly and freely extended to sugar, although the latter product has not grown for more than a generation, while all the others have more than kept pace with the expansion in population, and are approximately equal to the home demand. The duties on sugar have long since ceased to be protective in the broad economic sense, and their maintenance cannot be defended or justified on protectionist grounds. They are a tax on the consumer for the benefit of a small class of the population which is steadily growing smaller absolutely as well as proportionately. Whether the proposed bounty be kept up for fifteen years or for five years, sugar must be put on the free list and kept there.

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Kansas City Times.

Secretary Windom admits that the per capita circulation of currency is not what the nominal treasury figures show. Some authorities state that the currency per capita is only \$10. If that is true or even an approximate estimate this country is suffering from an actual contraction which may well precede a terrible stringency and impoverishment of the masses.

A correspondent of Bradstreet's says that the low price of silver has enabled India to export 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 bushels of wheat to compete with American wheat, which is marketed on a gold basis. This correspondent, who is no other than Mr. Kneeland, chairman of the grain committee of the New-York produce exchange, also says that an advance of silver to its comparative value with gold would advance prices, as far as India is concerned, to a higher level. The surplus of India wheat for export to the markets where our wheat is sold is not large enough to supplant the American supply, but it is large enough to seriously affect prices when it undersells. India is a constant consumer of silver and when silver is low purchasers of India wheat obtain an advantage which amounts to buying under market rates. India must undersell us when silver is depreciated.

Secretary Windom and Mr. Kneeland furnish a double argument for monetization of silver. If we can get free coinage the west should demand it. If we must compromise on a coinage of \$4,000,000 at least the west should carry the mandate to Washington that the party or the men responsible for a refusal can expect no support from western voters.

In the present unprofitable condition of agriculture and the comparative sluggishness of business dependent on agricultural purchasers, a circulation of \$10 a head means a panic or something very much like it. The country needs relief from the contraction of the money supply. It needs a restoration of silver to its normal value. The gold idolatry has awayed our legislation very much too long. Both metals are required by the people of the United States and this congress has had warning enough to bring decided action. Nothing short of a \$4,000,000 a month coinage will meet the case.

The government has collected from the people \$100,000,000 a year more than extravagant appropriations could get out of the treasury. That should be stopped and the idle money put into circulation. A poor people and a rich government is the reverse of the idea with which Americans began their national existence. More money among the people is the finance for the hour. It is not only the cry of the discontented. It is the lesson of the best financial sense of the country.

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